

Five Maryland agents honored

COLLEGE PARK, Md. - Five Maryland residents received major honors last month at the sixty-first annual meeting of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents, held Aug. 15-19 at Richmond, Va.

Delbert T. Foster was a national winner from Gaithersburg, a native Iowan, who has been a University of Maryland County Extension agricultural agent in Montgomery County for the past 20 years and chairman

of the County Extension staff since 1964.

Foster was the first National Pride winner to be selected by the NACAA, an award based on a report involving an over-all program to promote

agriculture in his county during 1975-1976.

Robert E. Stansfield, Jr., who lives in the Centennial development near Ellicott City, was named as Northeast regional winner for professional improvement work in the realm of lawns and gardens serving a population area of 50,000 to 200,000 persons.

Stansfield grew up on a Howard County farm near Skyesville, and he holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in agriculture from the University of Maryland at College Park. He has been a Howard County Extension agent since 1962 and chairman of the County Extension staff since 1966. His previous Extension service includes eight years as a 4-H and agricultural agent in Frederick County.

Dr. Russell J. Balge of Reisterstown was honored along with Howard County's Robert E. Stansfield, Jr., at an Aug. 19 luncheon hosted by O. M. Scott and Sons Co. of Marysville, Ohio. Dr. Balge was named Northeast regional winner for professional improvement work in the realm of lawns and gardens serving a population area of more than 200,000 persons.

This was the first year that this NACAA award had been broken down into population categories.

A native of Manitowoc, Wis., Balge holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in horticulture from the University of Wisconsin at Madison and a Ph.D. degree in plant science from the University of Delaware.

He has been an Extension horticulture agent in Baltimore County since July 1, 1973, serving the needs of home gardeners and commercial nurserymen in both Baltimore County and city from the county agriculture building at Cockeysville, up the hill from the Texas fire station.

Having supported himself since the age of 17, Balge has a wide range of experience in both horticultural and non-horticultural jobs. Several of these positions have involved landscaping and ground-keeping.

The second Baltimore County Extension worker honored at last month's NACAA meeting was G. Richard Curran, an Extension agricultural agent at the Cockeysville office since March 1970.

A native of Collinsville,

Junior bull riders featured at rodeo

East or West Cowboys start young. At the Cowtown Rodeo Saturday night, youngsters from the ages of seven to 16 had a chance to try their skills at riding the proportionately small Brahma Bulls. In the junior bull riding competition, the time for a qualifying ride is only

six seconds. The Brahma Bulls weigh approximately 600 pounds as compared to the professional bull of 1800 to 2000 pounds.

Total purse for the junior bull riding was \$25. Fifteen contestants entered with Johnny Graham of Penns Grove, N.J., winning first for \$10 with a mark of 55. Second, third, and fourth place winners were Jeff Morris, Randy Hiles, and Johnny Harp.

Pa. Curran holds a baccalaureate degree from Penn State.

Prior to joining the Cooperative Extension Service of the University of Maryland, Curran was a field supervisor for the now defunct Hungerford Packing Company at New Freedom, Pa. and a field representative for the Olin Corporation. The latter job involved fertilizer and farm chemical sales.

His Extension achievements in Baltimore County include organizing the county weed control advisory board, serving as county chairman for the statewide Farm Visitation Day, coordinating activities of the Baltimore County Corn Club, and conducting educational programs for grain producers, and commercial fruit and vegetable growers.

Curran served as finance chairman for the second annual Mid-Atlantic No-Tillage Convention, held last January at Hershey, Pa., and he is co-chairman for next year's event, scheduled Jan. 7, 1977, at Gettysburg, Pa.

Also honored at the Aug. 17 breakfast was Chester M. Cissel of Centerville, an Extension agricultural agent in Queen Annes County since 1957 and chairman of the county Extension staff since 1964.

Chissel was recognized as Maryland winner of the NACAA Distinguished Service Award.

Professional activities have included serving as president of the Maryland Association of County Agricultural Agents in 1974-75, being a director of the Tri-County Community Action Committee on the Eastern Shore, and holding membership on the Queen Annes County Recreation and Parks Committee.

He is an official judge for the American Milking Shorthorn Society.

Steer wrestling was tough for the Cowboys, Saturday. After having been used for this event all season, the Doggin' Steer has become educated. When he emerges from the chute, he immediately knows how to avoid the cowboy - stop dead still!!! Harry Gerhardt, who is presently holding second in money winnings for this event, spent 88.1 seconds in chasing his steer around the rodeo arena before successfully throwing it. Steve Dubrovsky was luckier and won the event in five seconds for \$201.88.

When JoAnn Trost of Lebanon rode into the arena for the girl's barrel race, she had a look of complete confidence. As the electronic timer rolled, she raced to a winning time of 18.06 seconds with graceful ease. JoAnn won \$135.24.

Kaye Kirby of Woodstown, N.J. again entered four events. He won bare back bronc riding with a mark of 60 and placed in the other two riding events. Kaye's total winnings were \$380.24.

Both the saddle bronc and bull riding competition was won by Grant Harris of Cowtown, N.J. Grant's marks for the events were 58 and 75 respectively. Money for the two events was \$333.20.

An audience of 2697 persons, including guests from Costa Rica and France, were on hand to see the 82 professional rodeo performers vie for the purse of \$2,470.10.

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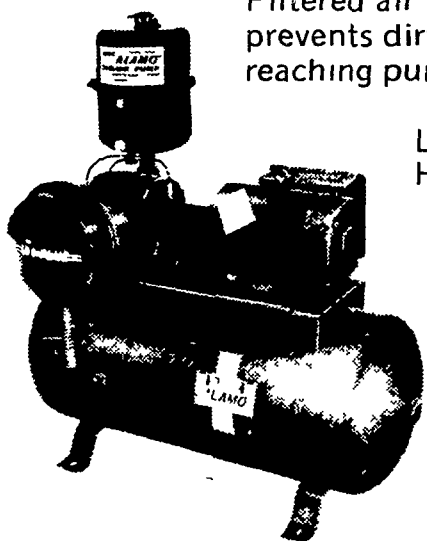
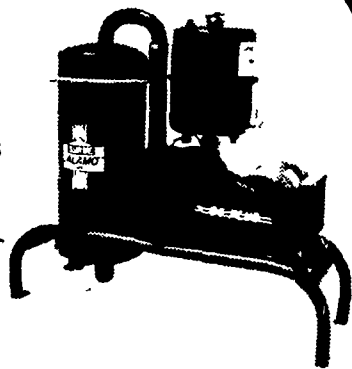
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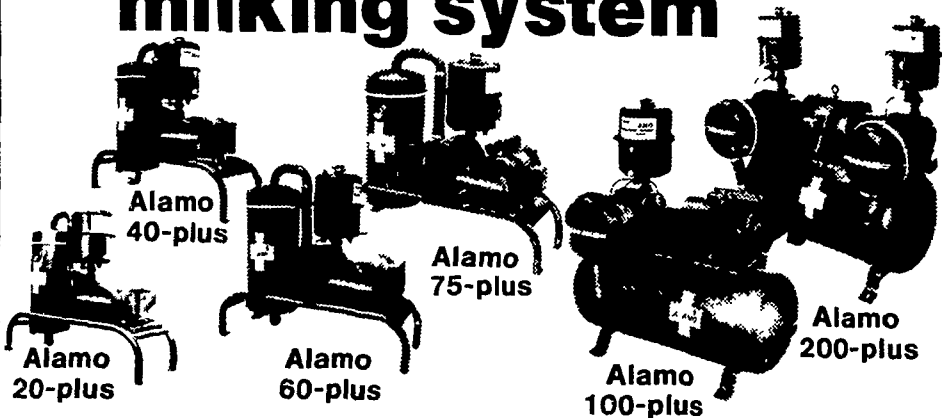
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